AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Previously Presented) A system that facilitates age verification of an individual, comprising:

a machine data reader that gathers age-related data information based at least in part upon encoded data existing on an identification card read by the machine data reader, the machine data reader containing a verification component that decodes the encoded data, extracts the age-related data information, and generates a data string compatible with a point-of-sale system based at least in part on the age-related data; and

a component that relays the age-related data string to the point-of-sale system, the point-of-sale system indexes the data string to a resident lookup table.

2.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, the data string is substantially similar to a string generated by a barcode scanner upon reading a barcode.

3.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, the machine data reader comprising a component to identify items for sale within the point-of-sale system.

4.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, the point-of-sale system executing a command based at least in part on the data string indexed in the lookup table.

5.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, the lookup table being a price lookup table.

6.   (Original) The system of claim 1, the point-of-sale system comprising a display unit that displays the age-related data.

7.   (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a component that automatically prohibits sale of at least one of age-restricted goods and age-restricted services to a buyer who does not meet a requisite age.

8.   (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a component that automatically delivers a notification to an authoritative body in an instance that a buyer who does not meet a requisite age attempts to purchase at least one of age-restricted goods and age-restricted services.

9.   (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a component that automatically generates a report in an instance that a buyer who does not meet a requisite age attempts to purchase at least one of age-restricted goods and age-restricted services.

10.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, the report automatically delivered to an authoritative body.

11.   (Original) The system of claim 1, the machine data reader being at least one of a barcode scanner and a magnetic stripe reader.

12.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, the age-related information is a range of ages.

13.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, the age-related information is an age.

14.   (Original) The system of claim 1, the verification component comprising a real-time clock, the age-related information at least partially determined by comparing age information extracted from the identification card to a current date as calculated by the real-time clock.

15.   (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a component that searches a list of individuals wanted by an authoritative body, the list comprising data relating to the individuals, and the search performed by comparing the data relating to the individuals with the encoded data.

16.   (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the authoritative body wanting an individual is automatically contacted upon at least a partial match of data relating to the individual in the list and the encoded data.

17.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, the identification card is one of a driver's license, a military identification card, a credit card, a debit card, and a smart card.

18.   (Previously Presented) A method for verifying an age of an individual, comprising:
        providing a machine data reader;
        extracting data relating to an individual from an identification card *via* the machine data reader;
        determining age-related information of an individual identified by the identification card based at least in part upon the extracted data;
        generating a string that is received by a point-of-sale system, the string identifying at least one of an age and range of ages of the individual; and
        indexing the received data string in a lookup table resident on the point-of-sale system.

19.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising informing a user of the point-of-sale system of at least one of the individual's age and a range of ages that the individual's age resides.

20.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, the user informed of the at least one of the individual's age and the range of ages that the individual's age resides by a display of the point-of-service system.

21.   (Original) The method of claim 18, the age-related information at least partially determined by comparing age information within the extracted data to a current date.

22.   (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
        indexing the string to a lookup table within the point-of-sale system; and
        initiating a command corresponding to the indexing.

23.   (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising automatically prohibiting sale of at least one of age-restricted goods and age-restricted services to the individual if the individual does not meet a requisite age.

24.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising automatically notifying an authoritative body when the individual does not meet a requisite age and attempts to illegally purchase at least one of an age-restricted good and an age-restricted service.

25.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising automatically generating a report when the individual does not meet a requisite age and attempts to illegally purchase at least one of an age-restricted good and an age-restricted service.

26.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, the report comprising the individual's name, age, and the at least one of the age-restricted good and the age-restricted service that the individual attempted to purchase.

27.   (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising:

        searching a list of individuals wanted by at least one of an international, federal, state, and local authoritative body, the list comprising data related to the individuals;

        comparing the data related to the individuals with the extracted data; and

        automatically contacting the at least one of the international, federal, state, and local authoritative body upon at least a partial match between the extracted data and the data related to the individuals.

28.   (Previously Presented) A system that verifies an age of an individual, comprising:

a machine data reader that reads encoded information from an identification card related to an individual, the encoded information comprising a birth date, and the machine data reader comprising:

a real-time clock that determines a current date;

a component that compares the birth date with the current date; and

a component that generates a string that is acceptable by a point-of-sale system, the string based at least in part upon the comparison between the birth date and the current date.

29.   (Original) The system of claim 28, the point-of-sale system receives the string and indexes the string to a lookup table, and data at least partially based upon the comparison between the birth date and the current date is relayed to a seller upon indexing the string to the lookup table.

30.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29, the lookup table further indexing strings that identify at least one of an item and a service that are sold at the point-of-sale system, the at least one age-restricted item is flagged.

31.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30, an individual is prevented from buying at least one age-restricted good and service when the individual does not meet a requisite age based at least in part upon the flag.

32.   (Original) The system of claim 31, the encoded data comprising data not related to age.

33.   (Original) The system of claim 32, further comprising a component that isolates the birth date from the data not related to age and extracts the birth date.

34.   (Original) The system of claim 28, the machine data reader comprising a bar code scanner, the bar code scanner scans barcodes relating to at least one of a good and a service sold at a point-of-sale system.